76

MINUTES

OF THE

Seventy-Sixth Annual Session

OF THE

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

Gallilee Church,

AMITE COUNTY, MISS.,

October 6th, 7th and 9th, A. D. 1882.

Officers:

ELD. W. W. BOLLS	Liberty	MODERATOR.
" E. W. SPENCER	Woodville	CLERK.
W. Z. LEA	Liberty	TREASURER.

Executive Board.

GEO. F. WEBB, W. F. LOVE, T. J. COLE,
W. Z. LEA, R. J. CAUSEY

CLINTON, MISS.:
BAPTIST RECORD BOOK AND JOB PRINT.
1882.

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MINISTERS.

Names.	Postoffices
W. H. Tucker	Jacksonwood, Miss.
H. G. Quinn	Liberty, Miss.
W. W. Bolls	Liberty, Miss.
Z. Lofton	McCall's Creek, Miss.
A. L. Travillian	Fayette, Miss.
C. H. Otken	Summit, Miss.
D. Eby	Ft. Adams, Miss.
S. R. Young	Summit, Miss.
T. P. Stewart	Meadville, Miss.
S. M. Provence	Natchez, Miss.
E. W. Spencer	Woodville, Miss.
Thomas Lansdell	Clinton, La.

MINUTES

OF THE

Mississippi Baptist Association.

FIRST DAY—Morning Session.

FRIDAY, October 6, 1882.

The Mississippi Association met this day in its Seventy-sixth annual session with the Gallilee Baptist Church, Amite county, Mississippi.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Eld. W. H. Tucker, from 1st Cor. xv:58.

Intermission for one and one-half hour for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Association called to order by Moderator, Eld. W. W. Bolls.

Prayer by Eld. S. H. Thompson.

Brethren T. J. Scott and L. O. Weathersby appointed reading Clerks.

The roll of churches called and the names of delegates enrolled.

CHURCHES REPRESENTED.

East Fork—W. H. Tucker, H. G. Quinn, W. H. Bates and J. A. Jenkins.

Dry Fork Union—Walter Shropshire and T. C. McCearly.

Ebenezer—Thos. Lansdell, W. B, Kinabrew, S. G. Dixon and Lafayette White.

Fort Adams—J. B. Oliver.

Hopewell—T. J. Scott.

Liberty—Geo. F. Webb, T. J. Cole and W. Z. Lea.

Mars' Hill—M. H. Martin and P. S. Marsalis.

Gallilee—T. H. Hoff and S. T. VanNorman

Mount Zion—J. H. McGehee and J. M. McGehee.
New Providence—M. Jackson and W. P. Gardener.
New Salem—Duncan McIntyre.
Percy's Creek—G. S. Morris and P. J. Stricker.
Ramah—E. Cowart.
Providence—Letter.
Summit—C. H. Otken and L. O. Weathersby.
Union, Amite county—F. G. Clark and J. F. Brown.
Union, Franklin county—E. B. Seale.
Zion Hill—W. W. Bolls, Samuel O'Neil and M. Jones.
Woodville—E. W. Spencer.
Damascus—F. N. Rodrigues.
Siloam—W. C. Thornton and Thos. Merideth.
New Hope—T. P. Stewart.

The following churches invited the Association to meet with them next year, viz.: Dry Fork, Union, Liberty, Mars Hill; New Providence and Union, Franklin county.

The following queries were sent up:

Summit Church—Was the report recommending the cooperation between the boards of the Mississippi Association and the Baptist State Convention, as adopted by the Prohibition Mass Meeting at the last meeting of the Mississippi Association, binding upon the boards of the two bodies?

Mount Zion—What relation does Lea Female College sustain to this Association and the Baptist denomination?

Damascus—Asked to be dismissed.

REORGAIZATION.

Brethren Scott and Weathersby were appointed tellers, and the Association was reorganized by the election of the following officers for the ensuing year:

W. W. Bolls.....Moderator.
E. W. Spencer.....Clerk.
W. Z. Lea.....Treasurer.

The roll of delegates was called and corrected.

On motion, the following Order of Business was adopted:

1. Reading of letters from the churches and enrollment of delegates.

2. Election of officers for the ensuing year.
3. Roll call.
4. Appointment of the usual and necessary committees.
5. Call for petitionary letters.
6. Call for correspondence.
7. Reports of committees.
8. New business.
9. Appointment of messengers to corresponding bodies.
10. Selection of next place of meeting.
11. Reading and adopting minutes of present meeting.
12. Adjournment.

Visiting brethren invited to seats with us.

Committees appointed as follows:

Religious Exercises—Pastor and deacons of Gallilee church.

Finance—P. L. Marshals, S. Dixon and J. A. Jenkins.

Nominations—T. H. Huff, M. Jones and M. Jackson.

Obituaries—Thos. Lansdell, L. O. Weathersby and E. B. Seale.

Home Missions—W. H. Tucker, J. B. Oliver and W. P. Gardner.

Ministerial Education—Geo. F. Webb and G. S. Morris.

Sabbath-schools—H. G. Quinn, G. B. Rogers and S. H. Thompson.

Publications—W. Z. Lea, J. H. McGehee and L. S. Piker.

Systematic Benevolence—S. T. VanNorman, S. E. McDonald and P. J. Stricker.

Temperance—T. J. Cole, W. B. Kinabrew and Samuel O'Neil.

Abstracts—L. S. Piker, W. H. Bates and E. C. Watt.

Foreign Missions—C. H. Otken, F. G. Clark and Lafayette White.

On motion, a committee on State Missions was ordered, and the following brethren appointed by the Moderator, viz.: L. S. Piker, W. H. Tucker and T. J. Walne.

Correspondence called for and the following messengers and corresdondence received:

Mississippi River Association—L. S. Piker, S. H. Thompson and Geo. H. Carpenter, with letter.

Homochitto Association, (colored) Eld. A. Sleeper, with letter.

State Mission Board—T. J. Walne.

Mississippi College—G. B. Rogers.

The right hand of fellowship was extended to visiting brethren.

Report of committee on republication of minutes in book form submitted. On motion, it was ordered that further consideration of report be postponed till to-morrow at 11 o'clock a. m.

On motion. the order of business was suspended for the appointment of committees on the queries sent up.

On query from Summit Church—M. Jackson, G. F. Webb and T. H. Hoff.

On query from Mt. Zion—T. J. Cole, W. B. Kinabrew, E. B. Seale, W. P. Gardner and Thos. Meredith.

On motion, the order of business was suspended to give Bro. Piker an opportunity to address the house in behalf of Baton Rouge.

On motion, adjourned to to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

Prayer by G. B. Rogers.

SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

SATURDAY, October 7, 1882.

Association met at 9:30 o'clock.

Prayer by Bro. P. L. Marsalis.

Rules of Decorum read by the clerk.

Roll called and absentees marked.

Report on Religious Exercises adopted.

Report on Home Missions adopted. Ap. A.

Report on publications submitted.

After an interesting address by T. J. Walne in behalf of the *Baptist Record*, the report was amended and adopted. Ap. B.

The hour appointed for preaching having arrived, the Association adjourned to hear Eld. Thos. Lansdell.

After the sermon, the Moderator announced an intermission of one and one-half hour, for dinner.

EVENING SESSION.

Prayer by W. H. Tucker.

The delegate from New Hope coming in, the letter was read and name of delegate enrolled.

On motion, the report of committee on publication of minutes in book form was taken up. Report adopted. Ap. C.

On motion,

Resolved, That the delegates now assembled pledge the amounts which they are willing to give for the publication of all the minutes in book form, of this Association from its origin, and pay the same when said books are delivered.

The following pledges were made:

S. E. McDonald	$ 15 00
J. A. Jenkins	5 00
J. H. McGehee	10 00
E. B. Seale	25 00
W. Z. Lea	5 00
S. H. Thompson	10 00
T. J. Scott	5 00
T. J. Cole	5 00
J. P. Stewart	5 00
Geo. F. Webb	5 00
M. Jones	5 00
A. Bradley	2 00
F. N. Rodrigues	5 00
P. J. Stricker	5 00
M. Jackson	10 00
D. McIntyre	5 00
L. O. Weathersby	5 00
H. G. Quinn	5 00
C. H. Otken	5 00
J. M. Berryhill	5 00
P. L. Marsalis	5 00
G. F. Brown	2 00
Wm. Whittington	5 00
T. J. Walne	5 00

On motion, ordered that a committee of one from each church composing the Association be appointed to ascertain how many copies of a book containing the minutes of this As-

sociation from its organization to the present time can be sold, and to report the same to C. H. Otken, who will have said book published if the amount of said sale will justify; and that he have all that can be made out of the sale of said book for his trouble, the price of said book not to be over one dollar, with paper cover.

Committee—S. E. McDonald, Percy's Creek; T. J. Scott, Hopewell; M. H. Martin, Mars' Hill; J. B. Oliver, Fort Adams; T. J. Cole, Liberty; S. S. Faust, Gallilee; E. B. Seale, Union, Franklin Co.; Thomas Meredith, Siloam; F. N. Rodriques, Damascus; J. H. McGehee, Mt. Zion; D. McIntyre, New Salem; J. F. Brown, Union, Amite county; T. C. McCearly, Dry Fork Union; W. B. Kinabrew, Ebenezer; H. G. Quinn, East Fork; M. Jones, Zion Hill; E. Cowart, Ramah; L. O. Weathersby, Summit; T. P. Stewart, New Hope; C. S. Fredricks, McComb City; E. W. Spencer, Woodville; W. P. Gardner, New Providence.

On motion, the committee on Obituaries were allowed to prepare their report and forward it to the clerk.

Report on Nominations adopted. Ap. D.

Report on Ministerial Education adopted. Ap. E.

Report on State Missions adopted. Ap. F.

On motion, brethren J. A. Jenkins, J. H. McGehee, D. McIntyre and W. C. Thornton were excused from further attendance.

On motion, Damascus church was dismissed to unite with the Fair River Association.

Pesolved, That Bro. Walne be requested to present the claims of the State Mission Board, and take a collection after 11 o'clock service to-morrow.

Prayer by L. S. Piker.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock Monday.

SABBATH EXERCISES.

The delegates assembled on Sunday morning in a Sunday-school mass meeting, presided over by Rev. G. B. Rogers. Addresses were delivered by a number of brethren.

At 11 o'clock a. m., Rev. T. J. Walne preached to a crowd-

ed house.

After the sermon a collection was taken for State Missions amounting to $35 85 in cash, and $64 in pledges to be redeemed at an early date.

SABBATH EVENING.

A presbytery composed of the ministers belonging to the Association, by request of Gallilee Church, ordained Bro. S. S. Faust to the office of deacon.

MONDAY, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Association called to order by the Moderator.

After a half hour spent in religious exercises the body proceeded to business.

The following reports were submitted:

On Systematic Benevolence, adopted. Ap. G.

Finance Committee, adopted. Ap. H.

On Temperance, adopted. Ap. I.

On motion, Brethren Martin and Marsalis were given leave of absence.

On Abstracts, adopted. Ap. J.

On Sunday-schools, adopted. Ap. K.

Executive Board, adopted. Ap. L.

Pending the adoption of the report of the Executive Board, Bro. Walne addressed the Association, and called upon the brethren present to say how much they would try to raise in their respective churches the ensuing Associational year for State Missions. The brethren responded and the following try pledges were made:

East Fork	$100 00
Ebenezer	30 00
Fort Adams	20 00
Gallilee	100 00
Hopewell	25 00
Liberty	100 00
Mars' Hill	50 00
Mount Zion	100 00
New Providence	20 00

Percy's Creek	30 00
Summit	50 00
Union, Amite county	12 00
Union, Franklin county	25 00
Zion Hill	50 00
Woodville	100 00
Siloam	25 00

Report of Treasurer adopted. Ap. M.

On motion, the Treasurer was allowed to take from the Associational fund the sum of $13.20 to reimburse himself for amount overpaid for Home Missions.

On motion, ordered that after the expenses of publishing and distributing the minutes of this session are paid, the balance of Associational fund in the hands of the Treasurer be appropriated to State Missions.

Report of Committee on Query from Summit Church adopted. Ap. N.

Report of Committee on Query from Mount Zion Church adopted. Ap. N.

Adjourned for dinner.

EVENING SESSION.

Prayer by S. E. McDonald.

J. M. McGehee excused from further attendance.

Report on Foreign Missions adopted. Ap. O.

Pending the adoption of the report a call was made for contributions for Foreign Missions, and $9 in cash was raised and the following subscriptions made, to be paid during the ensuing Associational year, viz.:

Jos. C. Robert	$ 50 00
W. H. Tucker	10 00
W. W. Bolls	10 00
L. S. Piker	10 00
L. O. Weathersby	10 00
Letha Fredricks, for Bro. David	5 00
S. S. Faust	10 00
A. Bradley	10 00

W. H. Bates	5 00
H. G. Quinn	5 00
J. B. Oliver	5 00
E. W. Spencer	10 00
T. H. Hoff	5 00
S. E. McDonald	5 00
Jno. Morris	5 00
Aaron Sleeper (African)	5 00
M. A. Jackson	5 00
H. P. Causey	5 00
E. Tatum	2 50
A. M. Jackson	1 00
Lena Jenkins	2 00
Lizzie Gardner	2 50
N. J. Toler	1 00
Mrs. L. T. Roberts	1 00
Mrs. Ellen Wilkinson	1 00
Emma Lea	1 00
Mary A. Thompson, Ida B. Mattherws	1 00
Mary Weathersby	3 00
Fannie J. Longmire	5 00

On motion, the Clerk was ordered to revise the list of ministers, as published in the minutes.

Resolved, That we appoint Missionary, Educational and Temerance meetings for every fifth Sabbath and Saturday before, during the next Associational year, and that the pastors and churches meet with us when they can, at the churches designated for places of meeting.

On motion, it was ordered that meetings be held under this resolution, as follows:

At Summit Church, fifth Sunday in October and Saturday before.

At Zion Hill Church, fifth Sunday in December, and Saturday before.

At Liberty Church, fifth Sunday in March, and Saturday before.

At Percy's Creek Church, fifth Suuday in June, and Satur-

day before.

Resolved, That we tender our sincere thanks to the members of Gallilee Church and vicinity for the kind and hospitable manner in which they have entertained this body.

On motion, the thanks of the body were extended to the officers for the manner in which they have discharged their duties.

On motion, the Clerk was ordered to superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes, and that the clerk receive $25 for his services.

Messengers were, on motion, appointed as follows:

Fair River Association—Z. Lolton, D. McIntyre and S. J. Hodges.

Union Association—E. B. Seale, T. J. Scott, B. F. Zumbro and S. S. Montgomery.

Bogue Chitto Association—W. Z. Lee, L. O. Weathersby, G. F. Webb, W. H. Tucker, C. H. Otken and W. W. Bolls.

Mississippi River Association—W. H. Tucker, H. G. Quinn, M. Jackson, C. H. Otken, Samuel O'Neil, S. G. Dixon, W. H. Bates and W. W. Bolls.

Eastern Louisiana Association—L. S. Piker and John A. White, sr.

Homo Chitto Association—E. B. Seale, T. J. Scott, S. S. Montgomery, T. J. Stewart and W. S. P. Claughton.

The following delegates were appointed to Mississippi Baptist Convention: L. S. Piker, E. B. Seale, W. H. Tucker, W. Z. Lee, T. J. Cole, G. F. Webb, T. J. Scott, L. O. Weathersby, W. W. Bolls, E. W. Spencer, S. S. Faust, C. H. Otken, T. P. Stewart, M. Jackson, Thos. Landell, R. D. J. Smith, W. P. Gardner, Jos. C. Rober, Henry Anderson, A. S. Turner, S. G. Hodges and Geo. H. Carpenter.

On motion, the following brethren were appointed visitors to the Commencement exercises of Mississippi College: E. W. Spencer, George F. Webb, W. F. Love, T. J. Scott and S. S. Montgomery.

On motion, ordered that copies of the minutes of this Association be the credentials of our messengers and delegates.

On motion, went into the selection of place of next meeting

and a motion to meet with the Mars' Hill Church, Amite county, Mississippi, was carried unanimously.

The minutes read and approved.

Adjourned to meet with the Mars' Hill Church, on Friday before the second Sunday in October, A. D. 1883.

Prayer by the Moderator.

W. W. BOLLS, Moderator.

E. W. SPENCER, Clerk.

APPENDICES.

A—HOME MISSIONS.

Your committee respectfully submit the suggestion that this Association being now identified with the work of the State Mission Board, it would be well to commit the work of missions within the bounds of the Association entirely to that Board, it being understood that they will consult with your Executive Board in regard to the work. It being the duty of the Executive Board to report on Home Missions, we respectfully advise that this committee be dispensed with in the future and a committee on State Missions be adopted instead thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. TUCKER, Chairman.

B—PUBLICATIONS.

Your committee on Publications submit the following:

Not to have the influence of some sound religious periodical in the homes of the members of our churches is, in the opinion of your committee, a neglect sadly detrimental to the piety and proficiency of the material composing the membership of this Association. The benefits growing out of the reading of well defined denominational literature are of great value, second only, we believe, to a full and faithful preaching of Christ from the pulpit.

The mind hungers as does the body, and unless nourished with health and strength producing food, will feed on those

things suggested by unsanctified human nature, resulting in mental dissipation and moral deformity. If we can incite our people to the regular reading of denominational literature, we may hope for permanent and splendid success in the different departments of work friendly to the cause of Christ. Your committee recommend to the favorable consideration of Sunday-school workers the use of *Kind Words*, published at Macon, Ga., by the Southern Baptist Convention, as highly suitable to the instruction of children and young members. We also recommend to our members as worthy of their support, the *Baptist Record*, edited by Bro. J. B. Gambrell, at Clinton, Miss., as the organ of the Baptist State Convention; also the *Foreign Mission Journal*, published at Richmond, Va.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Z. LEA, Chairman.

C—REPUBLICATION OF MINUTES.

Your committee appointed at last meeting to inquire into the practicability of publishing in book form, the minutes of this body, from its organization up to the present time, or from the year 1847, begs leave to report:

Former committees have laid before you the cost of such work, and reported effort made to raise the necessary funds. I would call attention to the resolution of your body in 1847, that resulted in the publication of our minutes up to that date.

Respectfully submitted,

E. W. SPENCER, Committee.

Resolution referred to in above report:

Resolved, That T. M. Bond be appointed a committee to enquire into the cost of publishing, in book form, a file of minutes of this Association, from her commencement to the present time; and if he should find that the sale of the book would pay for the same, he is hereby authorized to have it published immediately, and he shall be entitled to any surplus that may arise from the sale of said book; and in case the cost should prevent the publication, he will report the same at the next meeting of this body.

D—NOMINATIONS.

Your committee on Nominations make the following report:

Executive Board—Geo. F. Webb, W. F. Love, T. J. Cole, W. Z. Lea and R. J. Causey.

Introductory Sermon—E. W. Spencer. Alternate, Thomas Lansdell.

Respectfully submitted,

T. J. HOFF, Chairman.

E—MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Your Committee to whom was referred this subject beg to submit the following report:

This Association has given expression upon this subject at various times, and always in favor of a high standard of learning among our ministering brethren; this is effort in the right direction. We do not expect to make ministers, that work belongs to God, but we do propose to aid men called to this important work by furnishing them the means of prosecuting their high mission efficiently, and to do this, educational advantages are essential in many of the fields of labor. We are free to admit that we have men engaged in this great work, who are eminently useful, and are doing much for the advancement of the cause of Christ, and men of very great native intellect, and by force of their talents are accomplishing much good; this their records and reports abundantly show, that the Lord has blessed their labors, but while this is an admitted fact, it is also true that these uneducated ministers could have accomplished much more had they been educated upon a liberal plan.

There are localities, it is thought, where the uneducated preacher, however pious, and naturally strong and zealous in the Master's service, cannot work successfully, but there are no places where the gospel is preached that the educated minister cannot fill satisfactorily, provided he be pious and earnestly devoted to the work in the Master's cause, and none should even be permitted to go into the pulpit who do not, in their walk and conversation, furnish evidence of a call to the work, ac-

companied with a deep toned piety, either with or without educational advantages.

We have arrived at a point in our history when the churches and congregations in most localities desire educated preachers. This age of progress forces the conviction that an educated ministry is a necessity. We may further venture the assertion that the Redeemer's cause demands an enlightened exposition of the scriptures of divine truth, and that this end is beyond the power of the uneducated and untrained mind.

We therefore assume that whenever the churches recognize the call to the work of the ministry in an individual, that it then becomes the duty devolving upon such church to afford to such ministers all the facilities within reach of, or at the command of such church, to prosecute his mission with success, this consists in his education, if he should be an illiterate man, in sustaining him and encouraging him in his efforts.

Again, when we as a denomination send forth men to preach the gospel, by recognizing their call, by church action, we as such become responsible to the world for the efficiency of such accredited minister of our denomination.

We believe that many are called of God to preach who have little educational advantages, and are useful in some localities, but their best efforts in other circles would bring the cause of Christ into the severest criticism, not to say withering ridicule.

We therefore arrive at the conclusion that an educated ministry is the need of the present day, and that it is a solemn duty devolving upon Christians individually, and in church capacity to exhaust all legitimate means for the qualification of our accredited ministers. We feel that it is a laudable denominational pride to send forth an able ministry to "Preach the gospel to every creature," and to do this we carry out the injunction of scripture. We ask how can our preachers teach to others, what they cannot understand themselves; the word must be rightly divided. Again we ask, how can this be done by those who cannot understand the word? We cannot urge in terms too strong upon our brethren individually and collectively to provide the means of making our uneducated min-

sters more efficient in their high calling than has been effected in the past.

Brethren, let us send forth laborers able to work in every part of the field or vineyard of the Lord, whether it be into the frontier, on the confines of civilization or in the great cities of the earth.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. F. WEBB, Chairman.

F—STATE MISSIONS.

Your Committee on State Missions submit the following:

The aims of the State Mission Board are,

1st, To unify and develop all our churches and associations in the work of missions.

2d. To employ and send out faithful and efficient men to preach the gospel and organize churches in destitute places throughout the territory of the Mississippi Baptist State Convention, which embraces the State of Mississippi and East Louisiana. Within the vast field there is, in many places very great spiritual destitution. There are entire counties in which there is not a single Baptist church. Into these destitute regions the missionaries of the Board have gone preaching the word of life. Hundreds of souls have been converted, and 27 churches have been constituted.

3d. To aid feeble churches at important centres of population in securing and supporting efficient pastors. By means of such help a number of weak and inefficient churches have grown in a short time to be strong, self-supporting and effiicient bodies, and are among the largest contributors to all our denominational enterprises. Among this class of churches now receiving aid from the Board are Natchez and Woodville, belonging to this Association, and Baton Rouge, near your western borders.

4th. Another aim of the Board is to employ suitable men as evangelists, to aid pastors in protracted meetings, and revive weak and declining churches, and to stir up and develop the missionary spirit among the churches. A most valuable work

has been wrought by their hard working and self-sacrificing evangelists. Hundreds of souls have been converted under their ministry. Many weak and declining churches have been revived and the missionary spirit largely developed. One of their evangelists Eld. A. H. Booth, labors entirely among the colored people, and he is doing good work among these ignorant people.

5th. Another most important and promising work of the Board is its colportage work. Ten missionary and Sunday-school colporteurs have been appointed. It is the business of these men to go from house to house, from church to church, from association to association. They sell or give away Bibles, Testaments, denominational and general religious books, tracts and papers. There is a distressing lack of good, wholesome religious literature among our people. In many families there is no Bible, no Testament, no good book. The people ought to read; many of them do read. The question is, what shall they read? Much of the literature coming into the homes of the people is pernicious. The colporteur comes along, he talks and prays with the people in their homes, he preaches the gospel, organizes and instructs Sunday-schools, furnishes the literature needed. Then the kind of books needed by the people are brought to their own doors and they are urged to buy.

No work undertaken by the Board promises to accomplish more than does colportage work. It is the desire of the Board to have every association in the State canvassed by the colporteur. Bro. E. P. Douglass, of Wesson, hos been laboring since March in the Fair River and Mississippi Associations.

Such is a brief summary of the aims of the State Mission Board. Does not this work commend itself to this Association, and shall we not give to the Board our warmest support? In conclusion we recommend to all our churches that they make liberal contributions to the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

L. S. PIKER,
W. H. TUCKER,
T. J. WALNE,
Committee.

G—SYSTEMTIC BENEVOLENCE.

Your committee beg leave to offer as their report on Systematic Benevolence, the article as found in your minutes of 1881, and adopted, as follows:

Your committee on Systematic Benevolence beg to report that we heartily endorse the idea of order and system set forth in the former report, and would again recommend that the plan of taking up collections quarterly, by the church, for the discharge of our personal liabilities, obligations and debts to the Master's cause, be continued.

Respectfully submitted,

P. J. STRICKER, Chairman.

H—FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Your committee on Finance would report as follows:

Received from the churches for	Associational Purposes	$	87	00
" " "	Home Missions.....		19	00
" " "	Foreign Missions.....		11	90
Total.....		$	117	90

We have examined the Treasurer's report and find it correct.

Respectfully submitted,

P. L. MARSALIS, Chairman.

I—TEMPERANCE.

Your committee on Temperance reports:

Temperance, properly defined, is a judicious use of all the blessings of life. To use anything which is not beneficial, is a breach of the law of temperance; therefore the use of alcoholic liquors as a beverage, is a violation of the fundamental principle of temperance. It is not necessary to argue in this report that Christians are required by the laws of the kingdom to be temperate. Nor is it required that we argue that Christians are bound to be the friends of temperance. And more, we must be, not nominally, the friends of this cause, but the earnest, consistent and outspoken advocates of temperance, righteousness and judgment. The wide spread intemperate

use of ardent spirits, the desolation, sorrow, vice and death following this, the squandering of some $15,000,000 by the citizens of our commonwealth annually, the danger to the good order of society, all call loudly upon every man, woman, citizen and Christian to stand firmly by the cause of temperance.

The true Christian is the noblest philanthropist. He acts under the broad commission, "As you have opportunity, do good to all men." To teach people to shun intemperance is to confer a great blessing upon them. The true Christian is the best of citizens. He joyfully renders to God the things that are God's, and to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's. Our duty as citizens of a great, free state, calls upon us to lend our full influence to the suppression of the liquor traffic. And when the time comes, as Christians, and especially as Christian citizens, we should rebuke the foul iniquity of the liquor traffic at the polls by our ballots.

And now that the whole ceuntry is becoming alive to the importance of the subject of temperance, the churches should take a higher stand in this matter and discipline any member who becomes intoxicated, or drinks enough to influence his actions or conversation, or encourage it in others, or who signs petitions for the sale of spiritous liquors.

Respectfully submitted,

T. J. COLE, Chairman.

J—ABSTRACTS.

Your Committe on Abstracts submit the following:

Damascus—In a prosperous condition uuder the care of S. W. East. No Sabbath-school. Asks for letter of dismission.

Dry Fork Union—S. H. Thompson, pastor. Considerable interest among the members. Is situated in the midst of a vast destitution.

East Fork—In good condition. W. H. Tucker, pastor. Has two Sabbath-schools. H. G. Quinn superintendent of both.

Ebenezer—Thos. Lansdell pastor. Condition encouraging. Quarterly collection taken for missions.

Fort Adams—E. W. Spencer pastor. Reports some additions. Is hopeful.

Gallilee—E. W. Spencer pastor. Feels the need of a revival.

Hopewell—C. E. Reed pastor. Has no Sabbath school nor prayer meeting.

Liberty—W. H. Tucker pastor. Has a Sabbath-school; but little interest manifested. No special items noteworthy.

Mars' Hill—W. W. Bolls pastor. Enjoys a revival of the master's presence.

Mount Zion—W. W. Bolls pastor. Mourns spiritual depression.

New Providence—Thos. Lansdell pastor. Has a Sabbath-school, but no special interest manifested in church development.

New Salem—Z. Lofton pastor. Has just closed a meeting of days. Reports no encouraging items.

Percy's Creek—E. W. Spencer pastor. Has a revival among the members and some additions to the church.

Ramah—Z. Lofton pastor. Reports a good Sunday-school. Outlook hopeful.

Summit—W. H. Tucker pastor. Has an interesting Sabbath-school. Mourns a cold, lifeless condition.

Union, Amite County—Thos. Lansdell pastor. Needs a revival.

Union, Franklin County—C. E. Reid pastor. In a cold condition.

Zion Hill—W. W. Bolls pastor. Has a Sunday-school twice a month.

Siloam—S. H. Thompson pastor. Has enjoyed a revival during the year.

Woodville—E. W. Spencer pastor. Pastor is encouraged. Hopeful outlook.

New Hope—A. R. Long, pastor. Is not enjoying the spirit of revival.

Providence—In good condition. Outlook hopeful.

Respectfully submitted,

L. S. PIKER, Chairman.

K—SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

Your Committee on Sunday-schools would report as follo w

The interest in the Sabbath-school work is like every other work pertaining to the advancement of the cause of Christ, only possessed and agitated by a few. We regard it a great work in Christ's kingdom; therefore we commend the churches to urge the necessity of the work, encourage it by agitation in their conferences and endeavor to make an impression on the superintendents and teachers that there is an obligation, spiritually, in the position in which they belong in Christ's kingdom. So fas as Sabbath-schools are concerned, it is like everything else pertaining to the glory of God; it requires devotion and prayer to God for it to meet with success.

Respectfully submitted,

H. G. QUINN, Chairman.

L—EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Your Executive Board beg leave to report that owing to the scattered condition of its members, and the unprecedented rainy seasons, they have been able to hold only one meeting. At this meeting efforts were made to secure the services of a missionary, but failed. The State Mission Board has undertaken the support of a missionary at Woodville, and another at Natchez, and your Board has felt it to be a duty to turn over its funds amounting to $——— to the State Mission Board.

We suggest that, in future, the Association should appoint the members of the Executive Board all in one church. This would much facilitate its meetings and promote its efficiency.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. TUCKER. Chairman.

M—REPORT OF TREASURER.

W. Z. LEA,

In account with Mississippi Association.

Dr. Associational Fund.

Balance Associational fund last report.....	$ 34 43
Received from the Finance Committee.....	72 10
Received from S. E. McDonald.....	5 00
	$111 53

Cr. Associational Fund.

Paid for printing and distributing minutes..		$ 75 00
By balance of this fund.....		36 53
		$111 53

Dr. Home Missions.

Balance of Home Mission fund as per last report	$ 46 78	
Received from Finance Committee.....	48 15	
" " " " and charged as per order of Ex. Board.....	24 52	
Collection Sunday night, last meeting.....	16 80	
Received from Ebenezer Church	8 90	
" East Fork "	6 75	
" H. G. Quinn "	2 00	
" S. Morris	5 00	
	$158 90	
Balance due Treasurer.....	13 20	
	$172 10	

Cr. Home Missions.

Paid S. R. Young balance due of the Executive Board on last year	$ 26 25
" S. R. Young, by order of Association..	25 00
" S. H. Thompson " "	50 00
" Thos. Lansdell " "	25 00
" D. I. Purser, State missions.....	45 85
	$172 10

Dr. Foreign Missions.

Balance on hand last report.....	$ 18 05
Received from Finance Committee	118 87
" W. W. Bolls.....	10 00
" East Fork Church.....	6 75
" Ebenezer Church.....	7 00
Collection Sunday night, last Association...	6 50
	$167 17

Cr. Foreign Mission.

Sent H. H. Tupper, Secretary F. M. B.....	$140 00
Balance on hand.....	27 17
	$167 17

Respectfully submitted,

W. Z. LEA, Treasurer.

N—SUMMIT QUERY.

Your committee to whom was referred a querry from the Summit Church, would beg leave to make the following report, viz.: The adoption of the report (Ap. E.) was the action of the Association and not that of the Prohibition mass meeting, consequently is binding on the Association, which is fully answered and endorsed by the report of the Committee on Home Missions adopted at the present meeting of this Association.

M. JACKSON, Chairman.

O—MOUNT ZION QUERY.

Your committee to whom was referred the query in regard to the relation between Lea Female College and the Association. beg leave to report:

We find on investigation that Bro. Otken designed making it a denominational institution, and that the Association appointed trustees, and Bro. Otken collected some money and reported it to the Association as financial agent of the College. And that after Bro. Otken had expended a great deal of his private property to build up the institution, he offered to turn it over to the Board if they would take it and pay the debts hanging over it, that the Board refused to do so, and that he then having to pay all the debts hanging over the institution, and having already sunk all his means in it, ceased his efforts to make it denominational in the sense of being the property of the denomination. Bro. Otken also states that the money he raised, was, with a very trifling exception, given to him individually and without regard to its becoming the property of the Association, and that we are not able to find any evidences to the contrary, but strong corroborating proof.

We would therefore report that there is no connection between Lea Female College and this Association, only that the former should have the earnest prayers and patronage of the latter.

T. J. COLE, Chairman.

P—FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Foreign Missions would report:

It is the duty of the churches of Christ to give the gospel to the world. This duty is clearly enjoined in the word of God. The duty to send the gospel to Foreign lands is embraced in the common duty.

Some progress has been made in the awakened interest of the churches in the Foreign Mission field. This interest must deepen to be commensurate with our solemn responsibilities.

Resolved, That the churches are hereby urged to take up stated collections for the support of the gospel in Foreign Mission fields, and that these collections be promptly forwarded to the treasurer of this Association, and through him to Dr. B. H. Whitfield, at Clinton, Miss.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. H. OTKEN, Chairman.

Q—REPORT ON OBITUARIES.

Your Committee beg leave to report:

That the subject assigned to us reminds us of the sad truth that we live in a world of sickness, death and sorrow; that, as for man, his days are as grass—as a flower of the field so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone, and the place thereof shall know it no more. During the past associational year death has visited many of our churches, and many hearts have been sad as loved and dear ones have been borne to the grave. But through the great and precious promises of the gospel, we sorrow not as those who have no hope; for if we believe that Jesus died, and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

Asleep in Jesus, blessed sleep,
From which none ever wake to weep.

New Providence church reports the death of one of her dea

con, Bro. George W. Causey. Bro. C. was born in Amite county in 1832, united with the church in 1863, and died in the faith the 21st of April, 1882. He was a consistent Christian, a good citizen, a kind neighbor, an affectionate husband, and used the office of a deacon well.

Sister Polly Thompson, for many years a member of the same church, died at the advanced age of 82 years, in Christian hope.

Liberty church reports the death of sister Mary Walker, one of her oldest members. Ever faithful and consistent as a Christian this aged sister held membership in the church for more than 40 years, and was much loved by all who knew her.

Galilee church reports the death of sister Salina Jackson, in the 79th year of her age. She was the oldest member of the church, and died as she lived, an humble and devoted follower of her Savior. She had lived a faithful and consistent Baptist for more than 45 years.

Mt. Zion church reports the death of sister Adaline Jones, wife of Bro. J. P. Jones, who died April 2d, 1882. She had for many years been a consistent and much loved member of the church and died in full assurance of faith in Christ, and strong hope of future glory. Her only regret was to leave an affectionate husband and children so dear to her.

Sister Lizzie McDonald, a member of the same church, died in April. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

Mars Hill church reports the death of sister Hetty Gertrude Turner, daughter of Bro. A. S. Turner. Sister Hetty was born September 6th, 1865, professed faith in Christ and was baptized into the fellowship of Mars Hill church by Elder Jas. Newman, in August, 1880, and died April 3d, 1882. Her sun has gone down while it is yet day, but her spirit has risen to the mansions of light. The young and the old are gathering home.

Dry Fork Union church reports the death of sister Lula Shropshire. Sister S. professed faith in Christ under the ministry of Eld. S. H. Thompson, and was baptized by him in August, 1878. She was consistent and faithful and died in peace.

Percy's Creek church reports the death of sisters Caroline Iler and Sarah Stewart.

Fort Adams church reports the death of Bro. R. A. Varnell and sister Kittie Stricker. Sister S. was an active and zealous member of the church, and a good worker in the Sunday-school

Ramah church reports the death of Bro. J B. Wacte and sister Rushings.

Providence church, Franklin Co., reports the death of Elder E. Young.

Your Committee regret that they have not the facts before them in regard to the life, labors and death of Elder Young. All that we know we have written above.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS LANSDELL,
L. O. WEATHERSBY,
A. J. SEALS,

Committee.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

OF THE

Mississippi Baptist Association.

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1. We believe in one only true living God; and that there are a trinity of persons in the God-head—the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, the same in essence, equal in power and glory.

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, are of divine authority, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam; in the imputation of his sins to all his posterity; in the total depravity of human nature, and in man's inability to restore himself to the power of God.

4. We believe in the everlasting love of God to his people; in the eternal unconditional election of a definite number of the human family to grace and glory.

5. We believe that sinners are only justified, in the sight of God by imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ, which is unto all and upon all them that believe.

6. We believe all those who were chosen in Christ, before the foundation of the world are, in time, effectually called, regenerated, converted and sanctified; and are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

7. We believe there is one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus, who, by the satisfaction which he made to law and justice "in becoming an offering for sin," hath, by his most precious blood, redeemed the elect from under the curse of the law, that they might be holy and without blame, before him in love.

8. We believe good works are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification; are evidences of a gracious state, and that it is the duty of all believers to perform them from a principle of love.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and a general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

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ON GOSPEL ORDER.

1. We believe that the visible Church of Jesus Christ is a congregation of faithful persons, who have given themselves up to the Lord, and to one

another, and have covenanted to keep up a Godly discipline agreeable to the rules of the Gospel.

2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the head of the Church, the only law-giver; that the government is with the body—the Church, and is equally the right and privilege of each member thereof.

3. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are Gospel Ordinances, appointed by Jesus Christ, and are to be continued in the Church.

4. We believe that Baptism by immersion is the only scriptural mode, and that believers are the only proper subjects.

5. We believe that none but regular baptized church members have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

6. We believe it to be the duty and privilege of all believers to make a public profession of their faith, to submit to baptism by immersion, and to give themselves members of the visible Church.

7. We believe it to be the duty of every organized Church to expel from her communion all disorderly members who are immoral in their lives, or hold doctrines contrary to scriptures.

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RULES OF DECORUM.

1. Those delegates who are regularly chosen by the churches in our union shall compose the Association.

2. The delegates so chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches, certifying their appointment, together with their number in fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and dead, since the last Association.

3. The delegates thus chosen and convened shall be denominated the "Mississippi Baptist Association."

4. This Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by the members present.

5. If new churches desire to be admitted into the union, they shall petition by letter and delegates; if, on examination, found orthodox and orderly, they shall be received by the Association, manifested by the Moderator giving their delegates the right hand of fellowship.

6. No Church in the union shall have a right to more than two delegates, until she shall exceed one hundred members, then she shall have a right to an additional delegate for every fifty.

7. Every query sent to the Association by any church in the union, shall be read and put to a vote by the Moderator, whether it shall be debated and if there be a majority for it, it shall be taken up and investigated; provided, always, that those be first considered which affect the union of the churches.

8. Every motion made and seconded shall be taken [illegible] the Association, except it be withdrawn by the person who made it.

9. Only one person shall speak at once, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator.

10. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted, except he depart from the subject, break the rules of decorum, or cast reflections on a brother; in which case he shall be immediately called to order by the Moderator.

11. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject, without leave of the Association.

12. No brother shall be suffered to whisper or laugh during the Conference; neither shall he absent himself without leave of the Moderator.

13. The Moderator shall have the liberty of speaking on any question that may be debated, provided the chair may be previously filled; and have the privilege of voting only when the Association is equally divided.

14. The names of the delegates shall be enrolled by the Clerk, and called over as often as the Association may deem expedient.

15. We think it absolutely necessary to have an Association fund for defraying expenses of the same; for the raising and supporting of which we think it the duty of each Church in the union to contribute such sums as they may deem proper, and send by the hands of their delegates to the Association; and the money thus contributed by the churches shall be deposited in the hands of a Treasurer by the Association appointed, who shall be accountable to the Association for all monies by him received and paid out, according to the direction of the same.

16. The minutes of the Association shall be read, and corrected if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association rises.

17. These Rules of Decorum and Gospel Order may be altered, changed or amended, from time to time, or any part of them, when a majority of all the churches in the Association shall deem it neecessary, but the Articles of Faith shall not be subject to any alterations only as respects form.

POWERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1. It shall be the business of this Association to provide for the general union of the churches.

2. To keep up a friendly correspondence when convenient, with those Associatisns of the same faith and order.

3. This Association shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor infringe upon any of the internal rights of the churches.

4. It shall be the duty of this Association to give the churches the best advice in its power in difficult matters; to inquire into any difficulties which may exist between sister churches, and to remove them, if possible.

5. To admit any of the brethren in the ministry as associates, but not to give them the privilege of voting.

6. This Association shall have power to withdraw from any church in the union which may be unsound in principle, or immoral in practice, until reclaimed.

7. To appoint any person or persons, by and with their consent, to trans act any business which the Association may deem necessary.

8. The Association shall have power to adjourn to any time or place they may think proper.

9. The Associations shall be opened and closed with prayer.

STATISTICAL TABLE FOR THE YEAR 1882.

Churches.	Clerks.	Postoffice.	Membership.									Sunday of Meeting.	Contributions.				
			Last Year.	Increase.			Decrease.			This Year.			Associational.	State Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Total for Missions	Ministerial Edc'n.
				Baptism.	Letter.	Restoration.	Experience.	Let er.	Exclusion.	Erasure.	Death.								
Damascus	F. N. Rodriques	Veto	65	16	2	5	...	5	2		1	80	1	$	$	$	$	$ .....
Dry Fork Union	D. N. Cavin	Woodville	46	4	...	...	...	...	...		1	51	3	2 00	2 00	.....	2 00	.....
East Fork	W. M. Newman	Liberty	230	7	4	1	...	17	...		3	222	2	5 00	.....	.....	47 50	.....
Ebenezer	R. D. J Smith	Rose Hill	164	14	1	2	...	4	6		2	169	2 4	4 00	.....	.....	15 90	.....
Fort Adams	J. B. Oliver	Woodville	55	7	...	2	...	4	...		2	58	1	3 00	.....	.....	.....	27 00†
Gallilee	T. H Hoff	Kahnville	126	...	1	1	...	4	1		1	122	2	5 00	43 00	45 00	88 00	49 70†
*Homer Hill	J. McCearley	Woodville	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hopewell	S S. Montgomery	Meadville	50	1	1	...	...	...	...		...	52	2	3 00	5 00	5 00	10 00	.....
Liberty	W. Z. Lea	Liberty	145	7	3	2	...	5	2		1	149	4	3 00	125 00	.....	125 00	.....
Mars' Hill	J. A. Burris	Summit	138	6	3	1	...	4	1		1	142	1 3	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mount Zion	J. P. Jones, jr	Little Springs	211	4	...	1	...	10	...		6	200	4	7 00	4 10	1 50	5 60	.....
*Natchez	.....	Natchez	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Hope	J. R Mullins	Veto	103	...	...	2	...	...	8		...	97	2	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Providence	H. B. Causey	Liberty	56	3	3	...	...	1	...		2	59	1	5 00	16 40	5 00	21 4	.....
New Salem	T. S. Byrd	McCall's Creek	19	2	7	1	...	...	1		...	28	2	2 00	3 00	.....	3 00	.....
Percy's Creek	W. H. Davis	Woodville	35	6	...	7	...	...	...		2	46	4	3 00	10 00	.....	10 00	26 15†
*Pioneer	Pius McNeely	"	35	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	35	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Providence	W. J. Young	Meadville	19	1	...	...	3	2	4		1	2	3	4 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ramah	J. R. Terrell	McCall's Creek	130	20	6	2	...	4	7		2	145	3	5 0	.....	.....	.....	.....
*Sand Hill	R. R. Webb	"	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
*Sarepta	A. J. Saunders	Meadville	42	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	42	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
*Spring Hill	.....	Kibbeville	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Summit	L. O. Weathersby	Summit	176	3	6	1	...	4	...		1	181	3	3 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Union, Amite Co.	J F. Brown	Liberty	21	3	1	...	...	1	1		...	23	1	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Union, Frkl'n Co.	W. S P. Claughton	Morgan's Fork	155	...	1	...	...	1	2		5	144	4	8 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Zion Hill	W. R. Jacobs	Zion Hill	180	3	3	...	...	5	1		1	179	1	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Woodville	C. Hughes	Woodville	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	9	3	1 00	.....	.....	.....	14 15†
Siloam	Z. M. Cowart	Little Springs	38	9	6	...	...	...	...		...	53	1	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
McComb City	C B. Irvin	McComb City	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals			2169	61	48	28	3	71	36	...	32	2238	.....	$82 00	$ 208 50	$56 50	$ 348 40	$117 00

* Not represented. †$110 50 more subscribed by these churches, to be paid by the 1st of January.